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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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INFORMATION FROM FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

COUNTRY

Czechoslovakia

DATE OF

CD NO.

1950

**SUBJECT** 

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INFORMATION

HOW

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WHERE

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**PUBLISHED** 

6 Apr - 21 Jun 1950

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REPORT NO.

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**SOURCE** 

Newspapers as indicated.

## NAMES CZECH FOREIGN TRADE MONOPOLIES

29 CORPORATIONS TO CONTROL FOREIGN TRADE -- Neue Zuercher Zeitung, No 1305, 21 Jun 50

It is reported from Prague that all corporations have been abolished in Czechoslovakia with the exception of the 29 listed below, which form the Czechoslovak Foreign Trade Monopoly. The over-all functions of these organizations are given with their designations.

Carboexport -- Imports and exports coal (imports chiefly from Poland)

Metalimex -- Imports and exports ores

Ferromet -- Imports and exports metallurgical products

Chemapol -- Chemical raw materials and products

Slovenske Magnezitove Zavody -- Exports magnesite ores from Slovakia

Celluloza -- Exports cellulose

Papco -- Imports and exports paper and paper goods

Centrotex -- Imports and exports textiles

Exico -- The Foreign trade organization of former Bata Works

Svit -- Foreign trade in leather and rubber goods

Koospol -- Imports and exports of agricultural products

Cukrex -- Exports sugar

Sladovny -- Exports malt

Chmel -- Exports hops

Oleaspol -- Imports and exports oil crops

Centrokomise -- Foreign trade in groceries and other foodstuffs

Kovo -- Foreign trade in machines and metal products

Poldi -- Exports refined steel

Keramika -- Exports technical porcelains

Skloexport -- Exports glass

Ligna (a) -- Imports and exports lumber and industrial wood products

Ligna (b) -- Exports school and office supplies, especially pencils, which were

formerly manufactured by Koh-i-noor. Hardtmuth

Koh-i-noor -- Exports decorative items and small consumer articles
Orbis -- Printing and publishing (including newspapers); directly responsible to
the Ministry of Information. This corporation has a monopoly on domestic
trade in antiquarian books and sheet music, the monopoly to import and export literary and art books, and the monopoly to sell and trade postage
stamps.

Antiqua -- Exports antiques, especially furniture, rugs, etc.

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Supraphon -- Exports phonograph records and recording instruments

Tabakmonopol Corporation -- Imports and exports tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes

Darex -- Sells Czechoslovak export goods domestically for Darex crowns, a special currency against payments in foreign exchange or gold. Czechoslovak residents in illegal possession of hoarded valuables may exchange these in the Darex shops for textiles, shoes, refrigerators, food items and other goods. Darex purchasing certificates may also be bought abroad and sent to persons in Czechoslovakia, for conversion as described.

Metrans -- State monopoly for freight shipments to and from foreign countries Statni Film -- Foreign trade organization for motion-picture films and supplies

One other state monopoly controls and protects the copyrights, in foreign countries, of Czechoslovak authors and composers. It is being reorganized at present.

APRIL FOREIGN-TRADE BALANCE FAVORABLE -- Rude Pravo, No 117, 17 May 50

Czechoslovak exports amounted to 3,170,000.000 crowns and imports amounted to 2,712,000,000 crowns in April, 1950; thus there was a favorable balance of 458 million crowns.

During the first 4 months of 1950, Czechoslovak exports amounted to 11,405,000,000 crowns while imports amounted to 10,833,000,000 crowns. The export balance, therefore, amounted to 572 million crowns.

Trade with the USSR and the people's democracies amounted to nearly 50 percent of the entire foreign trade.

DISCUSSES STATE TAXES, EXPENDITURES -- Hospodar, No 14, 6 Apr 50

Engineer Poctor Bedrich Spacil, Deputy Minister of Finance, revealed the following facts at the Socialist Academy on 27 March 1950:

The state enterprises pay the state a special profit tax which amounted to between 16 billion and 17 billion crowns in 1949 and which is estimated at 23.5 billion crowns in the state budget for 1950. The state enterprises pay 61.2 percent of the profit in this special profit tax.

Since World War II, the national income has been as follows (in crowns):

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1946 -- 163 billion
1947 -- 190 "
1948 -- 214 "
1949 -- 260 "
1950 -- 290 " (estimate)
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Expenditures for social welfare have been as follows (in crowns)

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1946 -- 6,900 million
1948 -- 9,950 "
1949 --11,140 "
1950 --14,260 "
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Expenditures for health have been as follows (in crowns)

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1946 -- 1,780 million
1948 -- 1,940 "
1949 -- 5,640 "
1950 -- 6,620 "
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Expenditures for education have been as follows (in crowns):

1946 -- 5,890 million 1948 -- 7,210 " 1949 -- 8,570 " 1950 --10,250 "

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